CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A digital camera, comprising:

2   a photoelement array for acquiring image data;

3   a menu interface for controlling said digital camera;

4   a memory for saving said image data;

5   a processor in communication with said memory;

6   a control instrument in communication with said processor;

7   a display in communication with said processor for displaying said image data;

8   and

9   program code stored in said memory and executed by said processor using said

10   control instrument for navigating among a plurality of said image data,

11   said program code further comprising a menu navigation software

12   module for navigating a plurality of menus of said menu interface

13   using said control instrument.

1   2.   The digital camera of claim 1, wherein when at least one of said

2   plurality of menus of said menu interface is activated and displayed on said display,

3   said control instrument controls selection of at least one of said elements of said

4   menu.

1   3.   The digital camera of claim 1, wherein when none of said plurality of

2   menus is active and said image data is stored in said memory, said control instrument

3   controls navigation among said images stored in said memory.

1   4.   The digital camera of claim 1, wherein said control instrument is a set

2   of navigational buttons.

1   5.   The digital camera of claim 4, wherein said set of navigational buttons

2   comprise:

3   a left navigation button;

4   a right navigation button;

5   an up navigation button; and

6   a down navigation button.

1   6.   The digital camera of claim 5, wherein said left navigation button

2   deactivates at least one of said plurality of menus which is displayed on said display

3   when said menu interface is active.

1   7.   The digital camera of claim 5, wherein said up navigation button

2   distinguishes each said element of said menu sequentially up a list of said menu

3   elements when said menu interface is active.

1   8.   The digital camera of claim 5, wherein said down navigation button

2   distinguishes each of said elements of said menu sequentially down a list of said menu

3   elements when said menu interface is active.

1   9.   The digital camera of claim 5, wherein said up navigation button

2   navigates among attached images grouped into a logical unit when said menu interface

3   is not active and an image is displayed which is grouped into said logical unit.

1   10.   The digital camera of claim 9, wherein said up navigation button

2   displays the previous image grouped into said logical unit.

1   11.   The digital camera of claim 5, wherein said down navigation button

2   navigates among attached images grouped into a logical unit when said menu interface

3   is not active and an image is displayed which is grouped into said logical unit.

1   12.   The digital camera of claim 11, wherein said down navigation button

2   displays the next image grouped into said logical unit

1   13.   The digital camera of claim 5, wherein said left navigation button

2   navigates among said image data stored in said memory which is not in the current

3   logically grouped unit.

1   14.   The digital camera of claim 13, wherein said left navigation button

2   displays the previous logically grouped unit of said image data stored in the previous

3   contiguous memory location in said memory.

1   15.   The digital camera of claim 5, wherein said right navigation button

2   navigates among said image data stored in said memory which is not in the current

3   logically grouped unit.

1   16.   The digital camera of claim 15, wherein said right navigation button

2   displays the next logically grouped unit of said image data stored in the next

3   contiguous memory location in said memory.

1   17.   The digital camera of claim 1, further comprising:

2   means for communicating image data to a remote device.

1   18.   A method for navigating among a plurality of image data using a

2   digital camera, the method comprising the steps of:

3   acquiring image data for said digital camera;

4   saving said image data in a memory;

5   displaying said image data on a display;

6   providing a menu interface for navigating a plurality of menus of said menu

7   interface, said menu interface using program code stored in said

8   memory and executed by a processor; and

9   navigating among a plurality of said image data using said menu interface.

1   19.   The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of:

2   selecting at least one element of said menu when at least one of said plurality

3   of menus of said menu interface is activated and displayed.

1   20.   The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of:

2   navigating among said images stored in said memory when none of said

3   plurality of menus is active and said image data is stored in said memory.

1   21.   The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of:

2   providing a plurality of navigation buttons, said plurality of navigation buttons

3 including a left navigation button, a right navigation button, an up navigation button

4 and a down navigation button.

1   22.   The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of:

2   communicating image data to a remote device.